

Dear Sir/Madame,

I admonish you to seriously consider most expeditiously changing the Amateur Radio Service rules to reflect the desires of this and similar petitions currently set before the Commission. I would request the immediate abolishment of all Morse testing requirements. I also request the maintenance of current cw and digital sub-bands to allow those interested in these modes to continue to experiment and pursue the radio art as they see fit with minimal interference. I support granting current Technicians the HF privileges bestowed upon Technician Plus operators. I feel that our current written elements are sufficient.

These petitions are not about deleting a facet of amateur radio seen as “old-fashioned”, they are about keeping our service alive and vigorous with new people and new ideas to experiment with. Our service needs a constant injection of new blood to continue to grow. I do not believe that this will result in chaos on the bands. We do not require demonstrated competency on other modes nor the ability to operate modern radios or software, all part of the current modern Amateur Radio Service, yet we seem to struggle along quite nicely. Therefore, I do not view continued Morse testing as necessary nor fair. This “filter” is holding out a great many very good and knowledgeable potential operators from our service.

The Amateur Radio Service has proven its value time and again in disasters. The time has come to move forward and not be rooted in the past, so that we may continue to grow and progress in this digital age. When the next disaster strikes, perhaps a new mode invented by an amateur or a new amateur him or her self will be the vehicle that saves just one life. This alone would be worth the struggle to effect a change in regulations.

Thank you for the ability to publish my comments. By the way, I AM an Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator and I DID pass the 25 wpm element. Just in case you were wondering.

Sincerely,
Dan Pueppke-AA0YN